

**RESTORATION INFORMATION MANAGEMENT SYSTEM
FORMERLY USED DEFENSE SITES (FUDS)
PROJECT FACT SHEET
ORIGINAL DATE: 9 JUNE 97
TAG REVIEW DATE: 5 NOVEMBER 1997**

1. SITE NAME: Deming Army Air Field,
Precision Bombing Range No. 15

SITE NUMBER: K06NM039900

LOCATION:

City: Deming
County: Luna
State: New Mexico

PROJECT NUMBER: K06NM039901

CATEGORY: OE

INPR RAC: 5

ASR RAC: 4

TAG RAC: 4

2. POC'S:

ASR/INPR TEAM LEADER:

Name: Richard L. Pike
Office: CEHNC-OE-DC-D
Phone: (256) 895- 1559

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRICT:

Name: Cheryl Buckel
Office: CESWA-PP-M
Phone: (505) 342-3208

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION:

Name: James Harrigan
Office: CESWD-PPM
Phone: (214) 767-2403

HEADQUARTERS:

Name: James Huang
Office: CEMP-RF
Phone: (202) 761-8883

ASR SUPPORT DISTRICT:

Name: Gerald V. Schwalbe
Office: CEMVS-ED-P
Phone: (314) 331-8788

ASR TECHNICAL REVIEWER:

Name: C. Fredrick Girard
Office: SIOAC-ESL
Phone: (815) 273-8849

3. SITE DESCRIPTION:

Deming Precision Bombing Range No. 15 was positioned on 878.66 acres of land located approximately 24 miles northeast of

the City of Deming in Luna County, New Mexico. The legal description is Section 1, W 1/2; Section 2, T21S, R6W, New Mexico Principal Meridian. Prior to DoD use, the site was in part under the control of the State of New Mexico and in part under control of the Department of the Interior (DI). The land was used by two private parties for grazing, and acquisition of the site involved suspension of the grazing leases. Currently, the property that once comprised the site is leased to private parties for livestock grazing. The Bureau of Land Management administers the public domain land, and the State of New Mexico administers the state land.

4. SITE HISTORY:

a. Deming Army Air Field was the home of a Bombardier Training School and assigned the Western Flying Training Command. The first class graduated in February 1943, and the last class graduated in January 1945. In 1945, the base was transferred to the 2d Air Force. The Bombardier Training School was closed and the base supported Tow Target operations for Ft. Bliss.

b. On 24 April 1942, Executive Order No. 9146, the 294 acres of public land and 585 acres of leased state land that make up Deming PBR No. 15 were withdrawn for use as a bombing range. This was confirmed in PLO #105, dated 29 March 1943. This range was assigned to Deming Army Air Field under the jurisdiction of the Western Flying Training Command. This target, also known as Deming E-6, was a day and night target. This range was part of a bombing circuit called the "F" series and included PBR No. 14 and PBR No. 17. The range was transferred to the Second Air Force on 25 October 1944, and on 1 September 1945, the range accountability was transferred to Biggs Field (Near El Paso Texas). On 11 April 1946, the property was declared surplus; custody was transferred to the Department of the Interior on 23 May 1946, and on 15 August 1947, the 294 acres of public land was officially transferred to the Department of the Interior. The lease of state land was canceled on 13 May 1947.

c. The statistics on Class 45-2-B are representative of all the Bombardier classes. This class had 238 cadets, flew 5,807 missions, dropped 32,750 bombs (approximately 32,274 practice bombs and 476 high explosive bombs). Each cadet was required to drop a series of about 135 practice bombs (M38A2) and two demolition bombs (M30). Additionally, aircraft flares (M26 and M8) were used to illuminate targets at night, in some situations. There is no evidence of bombing operations on the ranges associated with the Tow Target operations.

5. PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Size, Acres:	Approximately 878
Former Use:	Target Area and Safety/Buffer Zone
Present Use:	Livestock grazing
Probable End Use:	Same as above
Ordnance Presence:	Confirmed
Type:	Bomb, 100 lb., Practice, M38-series w/spotting charge
	Potential
Type:	M26 Flares

6. CURRENT STATUS:

The Archives Search Report (ASR) for Deming AAF PBR No. 15 was completed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District in June 1997.

7. STRATEGY:

Entire Site: EE/CA, RAC 4

8. ISSUES AND CONCERNS:

a. The Huntsville Center Technical Advisory Group reviewed this ASR and concurs with the recommendation for an EE/CA for the entire site since there was confirmed debris from M38-series 100 pound practice bombs encountered by the SI Team during their inspection of this FUDS. There was no surface evidence that any HE bombs were dropped on this site. Since the site has not been broken down into separate areas, the entire site must be considered; however, the main focus of any removal actions should concentrate on the lands that surround the target rings and silhouettes.

b. Based on the investigation of historical records reviewed, the results of the site survey and interviews, there is no evidence of Chemical Warfare Materials ever being stored, used or disposed of at this FUDS.

c. There are known Federally-and State-listed species occurring in the site area. An on-site inspection by appropriate State and Federal personnel may be necessary to verify the presence, absence or location of listed species, or natural communities.